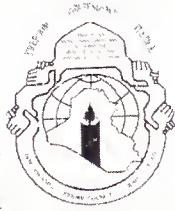


# THE ISCI BULLETIN

FREEDOM INDEPENDENCE JUSTICE



Vol. 2 No. 11

ISLAMIC SUPREME COUNCIL OF IRAQ

Saturday, September 5, 2009 1

**"With More Sadness and Grief, and Surrender to the Will of God, We Mourn with the Iraqi People and the Islamic Nation the Departure of the Great Champion of Justice"**

## ISCI Mourns Departure of Late Abdul-Aziz Alhakim

**In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful**

'O soul at peace, return unto thy Lord, well-pleased, well-pleasing! Enter thou among My servants! Enter thou My Paradise!' [89:27-30]

With more sadness and grief, and surrender to the will of God, we mourn with the Iraqi people and the Islamic nation the departure of the great champion of justice, the leader of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq and the United Iraqi Alliance, His Eminence Sayed Abdul-Aziz Alhakim, son of the Late Imam Sayed Muhsin Alhakim. He passed away at 12:30 PM today, the 5th of the holy month of Ramadan, 1430 AH, August 26, 2009, at the age of sixty.

The Late Sayed Alhakim spent the six decades of his noble life working for the sake of Islam and his country and made great sacrifices for this cause. He was an exemplary figure in his great concern for the interests of the Iraqi people and his advocacy for this cause at all costs.

In this great tragedy, we condole with Imam Al-Mahdi (the awaited one), the great Maraji', the Iraqi people, and the Islamic nation. We also offer our condolences to his two honorable sons, H.E. Sayed Ammar Alhakim and Sayed Muhsin Alhakim, and all members of his dignified family, and to the whole family of Imam Alhakim, asking the Almighty God to envelop him in His infinite mercy, and to instill into everyone patience and solace.

To Allah We belong, and to Him is our return.

The Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq  
August 26, 2009

## H.E. Ammar Alhakim Mourns Departure of Late Alhakim



**In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful**

Dear Iraqi people, dear struggling and enduring nation, during this holy month of Ramadan, the month of God's hospitality, His Eminence Sayed Abdul-Aziz Alhakim, the enduring and patient champion of the principles of right against wrong has gone to God's mercy. He spent decades in the battle and struggle against oppression and injustice, undergoing many hardships, to finally join his pure and virtuous ancestors and martyred brothers. This scholar and warrior of justice met with his divine Lord in His days of hospitality, and gave his full effort until his last minutes for his noble and sincere cause of advancing and defending Islam and the rights of the Iraqi people.

On this occasion of grief and great hardship, I offer my deepest and most sincere condolences to the dear Iraqi people, the great Maraji', Hawza, scholars, the Iraqi government officials, and the friends of the Late Sayed worldwide, asking the Almighty God to place him with his virtuous ancestors and to grant us success in following in his footsteps and his way.

## President Talabani Mourns Departure of Late Alhakim

**In the Name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful**

'O soul at peace, return unto thy Lord, well-pleased, well-pleasing! Enter thou among My servants! Enter thou My Paradise!' [89:27-30]

Dear honorable Iraqi people,

Peace and God's mercy be upon you. With great sadness and grief, I mourn to you a brother, friend, and a companion on the same path, a champion of justice like his father and brothers, a combatant against dictatorship and courageous in defying and overthrowing it, wise in building the new Iraq, and patient in accepting sacrifices. I mourn to you my brother in great distress, companion in the face of adversity, and partner in the struggle.

I mourn to you His Eminence Sayed Abdul-Aziz Alhakim, who was chosen by our Creator, in His great might and mercy, to enter His paradise on this day, after a noble life of dignity, courage, and honor, worthy of such a great man from this highly dignified family. His is the family that has given to our dear Iraq a tree nourished with the blood of its martyred sons, which flourished with their sacrifices and yielded with the piety, devotion, and dream of the father, the Great Ayatollah Sayed Muhsin Alhakim.

I mourn to you Sayed Abdul-Aziz Alhakim, with heartbreak and grief, which is only consoled through my faith that God will perpetuate this noble family's generosity and magnanimity with its champions of justice and their loyalty to Iraq, and at the forefront the brother, and son of a dear brother, H.E. Ammar Alhakim and his

brothers and family.

I offer my condolences to you, the Iraqi people, at this time of great misfortune, and to the Great Ayatollah Sayed Ali Al-Sistani and the Great Ayatollah Mohammad Sa'eed Alhakim, and the other great Maraji'. As I also offer my condolences to the brothers in the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq and the United Iraqi Alliance, and all the friends and those who loved the Late Sayed Alhakim and his noble family, praying to the Almighty God to instill into us patience and solace. There is no power without God Almighty. To Him we belong, and to Him is our return.

## VP Adil Abdul-Mahdi Mourns Departure of Late Alhakim

We offer our condolences to the Arabic and Islamic nations, the Maraji', the Iraqi people, the Iraqi government, and the family of Imam Alhakim, for the departure of the great champion of justice, His Eminence Sayed Abdul-Aziz Alhakim, who answered the call of his Lord on the afternoon of the fifth day of the holy month of Ramadan, at peace after having devoted his noble life to the service of Islam and its tolerant principles. He struggled these past decades in order to liberate Iraq from dictatorship and tyranny, and then moved on to building the new Iraq, as he was one of the most prominent nationalistic figures who played a pivotal role in establishing the principles of independence, freedom, sovereignty, and justice. He was also played a central role in uniting the different sides and working for a common goal between Shi'a, Sunnis, Arabs, Kurds, Turkmen, Muslims, Christians, and the other communities and groups, as he became a meeting point where all Iraqi people were able to meet and unite.

We, with the departure of His Eminence, have lost a major symbol and a prominent national figure, and we ask the Almighty God to envelop him in His infinite mercy and to place him with his virtuous and noble ancestors and to instill into the Iraqi people, the family of Imam Alhakim, his friends, and those who love him patience and solace.

To Allah We belong, and to Him is our return.

## A Biography of Late Abdul-Aziz Alhakim



### Personal Information

- Born in 1950 and raised in Al Najaf Al Ashraf. He is the tenth and last son of Imam Mohsen Al Hakim, the highest religious leader of Shi'a worldwide during the late fifties and sixties. He is married and has two sons and two daughters.
- He started his struggle against the former dictatorship in the late seventies and continued until the removal of Saddam regime.

### Education

- His education was through the Al Najaf Al Ashraf religious school, known as the Al Hawza, until he reached the highest education level. His teachers were Imam Muhammed Baqer Al Sadr and Imam Abo Al Kasem Al Khoie.

### History

- He departed Iraq in 1980 for Syria after the murder of Imam Muhammed Baqer Al Sadr. He then emigrated to Iran with his older brother Ayatollah Muhammad Baqer Al Hakim, the former ISCI leader who was assassinated in Najaf in August 2003.
- He became a member of the Iraqi Muslim Scholars group, and then became an executive director of ISCI directly after its establishment in 1982.
- He is the founder of the Documentary Center for Human Rights in Iraq. The center has branches all over the world and has been a significant source of information for international Human Rights organizations. He also founded of the Al Ihsan Charity Foundation, which was responsible for the Iraqi refugee camps in Iran.
- H.E. supervised a group of Iraqi Army Officers who were working against the former regime.
- After the Saddam regime invaded Kuwait in 1990, he took the responsibility of preparing the Iraqi opposition groups

conference. However, this conference was put on hold due to Operation Desert Storm which began in January 1991.

- After the brutal crushing of the Iraqi uprising in March 1991, H.E. headed a delegation to visit Saudi Arabia to negotiate with them on various issues, including the situation of Iraqi refugees in Saudi Arabia.
- H.E. visited the United States on August 2002 as the representative of ISCI, along with other Iraqi leaders, to discuss the Iraqi crisis. He also headed the ISCI delegation to the London Opposition Conference in December 2002, and the Salahaddin Conference in March 2003.

### Activities

- H.E. returned from Iran to Iraq directly after the toppling of the former regime to settle in Baghdad. He was in continuous consultation with Ayatollah Muhammad Baqer Al Hakim in Al Najaf.
- He was a member of the presidential committee of the Iraqi Governing Council (IGC). This was the first committee to lead Iraq after more than three decades of dictatorship.
- He assumed the leadership of ISCI in August 2003, after the assassination of his brother Ayatollah Muhammad Baqer Al Hakim in Al Najaf.
- Seven of his brothers have been killed, six of them by the former dictator and the last one, Ayatollah Muhammad Baqer Al Hakim, in Al Najaf by terrorists. The total martyrs from his family number sixty four persons.
- He visited the U.S. four times: the first was in August 2002, the second in January 2004, the third was on December 2006 and the last one was in November 2007.

### Death

The Late Sayed Abdul-Aziz Alhakim had suffered from a deadly disease since May, 2007 and was diagnosed with lung cancer at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. He received treatment in Tehran to control the disease. He returned to the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston in November, 2007 in order to see how the treatment was controlling the disease. The results were encouraging at the time. He was going about his usual activities in a normal manner, but the disease was exacerbated and reversed his health in the past weeks, until he passed away on August 26, 2009.

## Formal Funeral of Late Alhakim in Baghdad



A solemn funeral procession for the deceased Sayed Alhakim was held at Baghdad International Airport on August 28th 2009. In attendance were numerous Iraqi leaders and officials from around the Arab and Islamic world as well as prominent international figures.

The plane carrying the body of the late Sayed Alhakim left from Tehran, where the deceased was lying in state, and arrived at Baghdad airport where it was received by many mourners who wished to pay their respects to a man who had been pivotal in the construction of the modern Iraqi Republic. President Talabani along with the Prime Minister, Vice President and several members of the Council of Representatives came to bid farewell to Alhakim.



Sayed Ammar Alhakim mentioned to the deep faith of his father in the national political project and to his hard work over the decades and during the first 6 years of the new Iraqi Republic. The late Alhakim believed in true partnership between the components of the Iraqi people in the administration of their country and faith in the state institutions, its citizens and constitution. The late Alhakim's constant promotion of national unity and strives for

independence and sovereignty marked his true reverence for the Iraqi state. The late Alhakim shared the same principles as his martyred brother Ayatollah Mohammad Baqir Alhakim and collaborated with and supported many of Iraqis national figures. Ammar Alhakim thanked the President Talabani, Prime Minister Almaliki, Vice President Tariq Al-Hashimi and Kurdish President Barazani for attending the arrival of the late Alhakim back to the country he loved. Ammar Alhakim also thanked the Iraqi people for their outpouring of support and his gratitude for all those who have expressed their grief.



President Talabani delivered a speech at the ceremony in which he expressed his deep sorrow at the loss of such a prominent Iraqi. Talabani described Alhakim as a man who dedicated his life to Iraq and that he sincerely hoped that the void left by the passing of Alhakim will be filled by someone whom holds the ideals which Alhakim championed. Talabani also commended the Alhakim family and expressed his hope that all Iraqis would work together to rebuild Iraq.



Prime Minister Almaliki also spoke and made mention to the great gifts the late Alhakim had bestowed upon Iraq, science and Islamic jurisdiction. The Alhakim family has paid dearly in blood to guarantee a free Iraq. The Alhakim family has seen numerous martyrs in confronting tyranny and dictators, and established a political process and state institution which is a cornerstone of the Republic of Iraq. Deputy Speaker Al-Attiyah commented

on Alhakim's constant defense of the Iraqi people and that he was and is a national symbol of love devotion and Islam. Kurdistan Regional Government President Barazani also spoke and described Alhakim as a dear friend and an advocate of the rights of all Iraqis, including the Kurdish peoples, and praised the late Alhakim for strengthening the partnership and national unity and between the various components which make up Iraq's population.

## In the Presence of a Large Number of Iraqis, Alhakim is Buried In Najaf



Sayed Abdul Aziz Alhakim was laid to rest in the holy city of Najaf on August 29th 2009. Among those who came to pay their final respects for a man who forever altered the Republic of Iraq. From Iraq's political elite to Iraq's religious leaders, all of them came to offer their condolences and celebrate the life of Alhakim.



Thousands of faithful Iraqis were also present and were a stunning reminder of the number of people Alhakim touched and affected. The scene was reminiscent of the funeral of Mohammed Bakir Alhakim. Abdul Aziz Alhakim was buried next to the shrine of his brother Mohammed Bakir Alhakim. The outpouring of emotion went to show that Iraq lost a great man, but the work Alhakim did while on earth stand as a testament to the contributions that he made to all Iraqis.

## Late Alhakim As A Leader



The late Sayed Abdul Aziz Alhakim's role as the preeminent Iraqi leader did much to bolster the cause of all Iraqis. He traveled the globe and championed the Iraqi cause. Alhakim's ability to spread his message around the globe brought to light the struggles and accomplishments of the fledgling Iraqi Republic. His stature within the region and around the world is reflected in his numerous meetings with world leaders. Alhakim held the firm belief that "the Iraq issue should be solved by the Iraqis with the help of friends everywhere." Alhakim was an adept leader and had the uncanny ability to identify with all peoples and bring Iraq's struggle to light. He was respected not only by those in the Arab and Islamic world but he was also held in the highest regard in Europe, Russia and the United States.

Alhakim's role and accomplishments as the voice of a New Iraq was reflected in the way in which he was received by foreign governments. He was treated with the same esteem and pomp bestowed on any world leader. He used this to best further the cause of all Iraqis. He felt that Iraq should be opened to the world and he truly desired that Iraq would be involved in what is becoming a more globalized society. The relationship that Alhakim built with the international community was a genuine attempt to bring Iraq out of the chaos and disillusionment which has plagued the country since 2003.

Alhakim's endless promotion of Iraq altered the hearts and minds of the international community and his work did much to stunt the stigma which has hovered over Iraq. His vision inspired those who met with him. If a man such as Alhakim, who had suffered so much over the years, can act in such a positive and optimistic manner it alters wholly the perception of what the future holds for Iraq.

With the passing of Alhakim Iraq has

lost one of its most hearty and prolific supporters. Alhakim's tireless promotion of the Iraqi Republic and the Iraqi people across the entire globe reflected his love of his country and his people. His vision of a free and peaceful Iraq was spread across the world and he along with his message was received by a great number of world leaders, scholars, and intellectuals. Alhakim's contributions to Iraq and its people will forever be marked by his love and faith in his country and its people and his firm belief that Iraq should be open to the world and that Iraq can be a force for good across the globe.

## Alhakim's Death as Covered by the Media



The news of Sayed Abdul Aziz Alhakim's death was covered by media outlets from across the globe. Despite the differing opinions that certain journalists held about the late Alhakim's policies they all agreed that he was a great patriot and did much for the new Iraqi Republic and its people. His accomplishments were reflected in the myriad of articles that were written after the announcement of his passing with all mentioning that he had much more to contribute to the cause of the Iraqi Republic both locally and globally. There is mention of not only Alhakim's political achievements and his role as the architect of the Iraqi Republic and constitution but also his role as a religious leader and a man of deep faith.

Invariably almost without fail there is mention of how Alhakim's death will affect the political landscape of Iraq and how his passing coincides with a very turbulent and unsure time for Iraqi politics. This is understandable considering the monolithic figure that Alhakim was in life and the political clout that he held. The outpouring of support that is reflected in all of the articles from Iraqi political figures and other major figures from around the globe goes to show how truly missed Alhakim will be in the Iraqi political arena.

The amount of condolences and the sense of loss that is expressed in these articles emulate how the passing of Alhakim has affected the Iraqi people and the Republic of Iraq. A sense of reverence and respect for Alhakim's accomplishments is expressed over and over. Alhakim will be missed and his works in life are eulogized in all the discourses that were written upon the announcement of his death and this illustrates the magnitude of Alhakim's life's work. The extent to which his death was covered from the initial announcement of his passing all the way to his burial in the holy city of Najaf goes to show what a momentous occasion this was in the history of Iraq.

## Ammar Alhakim Receives Condolences From U.S. VP

His Eminence Sayed Ammar Alhakim, President of Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq,

With deep sorrow and sadness I received of the death of your father, Sayed Abdul Aziz Alhakim, with no doubt, the work of Late His Eminence to build a prosperous future for Iraq, has earned him a prominent place in the hearts of his people.

I introduce my sympathy and condolences to you and your family at this difficult time.

Sincerely yours,

Joe Biden

Vice-President of the United States of America

A personal note: Since I lost my father recently, I appreciate your sense of loss and my prayers go out to you.

# THE ISCI BULLETIN

Vol. 2 No. 11

ISLAMIC SUPREME COUNCIL OF IRAQ

Saturday, September 5, 2009 5

## ISCI Unanimously Elects Sayed Ammar Alhakim



In the name of Allah, Most Gracious,  
Most Merciful

Those who believe, and suffer exile and strive with might and main, in Allah's cause, with their goods and their persons, have the highest rank in the sight of Allah. they are the people who will achieve (salvation). 9/20

On the occasion of tragic departure of late Sayed Abdul Aziz Alhakim, President of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq on last Wednesday afternoon August 28th, 2009, corresponding Ramadan 5th, 1430 AH, pursuant to article (3) of the rules of procedure of the ISCI Central Consultation Committee, ISCI Central Consultation Committee has met this morning, Tuesday, September 1st, 2009, corresponding / Ramadan 11th, 1430 AH, and after reading the Al-Fatiha on the spirit of the deceased, the present appraised and appreciated highly his efforts and struggle for religion and country, and its central role in combating the Saddam's regime, and in building a new Iraq based on the Constitution and the law and state institutions.

ISCI Central Consultation Committee examined the issue of electing a new president of the Council, after trading in the views and listening to the discussions in a climate of a high sense of responsibility and appreciation of the general interest and review the recommendation submitted by the Center of the decision, given the specifications and capabilities and the high tolerance of Sayyed Ammar Alhakim, the Central Consultation Committee has elected him unanimously as a president of Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq and wished him success in carrying out his responsibilities in this large sensitive site.

The Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq,

wishes to emphasize on this occasion that he is carrying on the same course followed by the great deceased of Iraq and is an extension of the approach path trodden by immortal Shaheed Almihrab, an approach of faith and obedience to religious authority for guidance, moderation, the supreme interests of Iraq and not the sectional and personal interests, the defense of the disadvantaged and the oppressed people and the families of the martyrs, the faith the unity of Iraq's land and people, Iraq for all Iraqis, and to work for freedom and justice and independence.

May God rest the deceased of Iraq rich mercy and paradise of spacious live here and putting him with his ancestors of divine Imams peace be upon them, and help his successor Sayed Ammar Alhakim and paid in the performance of his responsibilities in achieving the enormous great goals Iraqis and thousands of martyrs.

Praise be to Allah, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds.

## Sayed Ammar Alhakim Biography

Sayed Ammar Alhakim is part of a long and prestigious lineage that is firmly rooted in the fertile soil of Iraq. His family has been apart of Iraq's turbulent history and played a crucial role in the country's religious and political thought. Ammar's grandfather the Grand Ayatollah Mohsen Alhakim was the most prominent Shiite Muslim leader of the 20th century and played a key role in the 1920 revolution against the British occupation. His father Abdul Aziz Alhakim was the architect of Iraq's constitution and led the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq which became the largest political entity of the new Iraqi Republic. Ammar Alhakim, now the leader of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq, looks to continue this storied and prominent family tradition.

Born in the holy city of Najaf in 1971, the oldest of the late Abdul Aziz Alhakim's children, Ammar's childhood was fraught with strife and upheaval. He was forced from his home in 1979 by the brutal dictator Saddam Hussein because of his father's Islamic activities and his defense of the Iraqi people against Hussein's tyranny.

While residing in Iran, having been thrown into exile, Ammar Alhakim began his journey into academia and religious study. He studied at the Arabic Islamic University in the city of Qum and later taught at the University.

After the toppling of Hussein in 2003, Alhakim was able to return to his homeland. That same year he established the Shahid Al-Mehrab Cultural Organization, which in 2007 the United Nations named as the special consulting agency at the economic and social council. Located in Najaf the organization is considered the largest civil organization in Iraq, specializing in the field of human development, human rights, religious dialogues between different religions and schools of thought. The Shahid Al-Mehrab Cultural Organization also supervises many schools, institutions, cultural, scientific and university centers. It also hosts numerous activities, seminars, conferences and issues a number of periodicals and special magazines.

Never idle, Ammar has participated in a number of international conventions, attended conferences at the United Nations and has championed human rights and religious tolerance. He has given a plethora of interviews with international media outlets and has sat down with ambassadors representing countries from around the globe. His actions and activities have subjected him to numerous assassination attempts, but despite all of this Ammar Alhakim has continued on his mission.

As his father Abdul Aziz Alhakim fell under the ravages of cancer, Ammar took over the day to day activities of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq. During this time Ammar continued to push forward his world view of peace and tolerance and with the passing of his father in late August 2009, Ammar Alhakim was nominated to take over the Presidency of the Islamic Supreme Council of Iraq. From here Ammar Alhakim looks to continue his father's life work, continue to forge his own legacy and do what is best for Iraq and the Iraqi people.

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